

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives (RG 233)

PHILLIP AGEE INTERVIEW

January 11, 1978

Leap / Brown

SIDE 1 - TAPE 2

Now, I'm talking about the machine listings of cryptonyms - true names - and 201 numbers. With the idea to try to discover whether there was another file on Oswald than the true name 201 file that you seem to have. We would receive these listings of true name in alphabetical order. They were run off on a machine by the Records Integration Division and they would be in alphabetical order of everybody of interest to the

Mexico City Station. In otherwords, they would be all the true names of people for whom 201 numbers have been assigned for operations relating those particular countries, and there would be an alphabetical listing by last name first and first name and second name, or middle initial, whatever they had. And then along side the name would be the 201 number that would be in a cardboard folder

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 5

Agee: They are listed, as far as I know, in numerical order. And they are assigned in numerical order starting from maybe - I don't know what they started with - I think the earliest ones had about about - they had 201 - and maybe four digits. May they started ^{be} with one thousand.

Leap: Now if Oswald has a cryptonym, it's going to

. ?

Agee:

Now, there are exceptions to that and these are agents recruited locally in any particular country to act against the Soviet mission there for the station. For example, the agents who were working against the Soviet mission in Mexico City. they didn't have

Now even though they were assigned against the Soviet target,

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 6

they were considered Mexican operations.

Leap:

Say one of those agents in Mexico with a
cryptonym was transferred

- he would still retain his original
cryptonym or would they assign him a new one?

Agee:

They would probably assign him a new Tokyo
cryptonym so they would have to continue the
file under a new cryptonym, and I can think of
cases where that happened.

Leap:

How would you know, though, or say that you
just had this first file - cryptonym file -
when in Mexico. Reviewing that file, would
there be anything in that file to indicate
that man was transferred and that he would
from hereforth carry a new cryptonym?

Agee:

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Reproduced from the Holdings of the National Archives NSCA (RG 233)

the '60s and you had to request the cryptonym from Records Integration Division because it was too unwieldy and led to errors so that at the beginning of the early 1960s, the stations abroad had their own crypt lists which they could assign and somewhere in the mid '60s sometime they changed this and only RID could assign cryptonyms. But crypt could change if an agent went from one country to another to work. But there again, you still have a fall back on the numerical 201 listing and there, if a man had received more than one cryptonym, then it would have to be on the machine listing.

Leap:

Under this same number?

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives NSA (RG 233)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 8

Agee:

Under this same number - exact.

Brown:

Okay - how about question number seven?

Agee:

Whereare the photo statement by the American tourists, Monica Kramer, Rita Norman, and Retta Hyde, which were given to CIA before 1963 - photos are not in Lee Harvey Oswald's 201 file. Why would the photos be kept in separate file from his 201 file? Is there anything you can tell me about these photos or about how they happen to get the photos in Moscow or in the . . . ?

Brown:

Well, I don't really know, I would assume that they being tourists they met a fellow American and wanted to take pictures of one another.

Leap:

Inside the Soviet Union?

(Agee:)

Brown:

Inside Russia. Presumably these people met Oswald and took his photo there with them or something as they were touring.

Brown:

Right -- Now these pictures, we understand

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 11

between November of '59 and December of '60 before the 201 file was opened -- then they must have been put in some other file. And the officer in charge of the case should normally go back to do a full name check on Lee Harvey Oswald at the time of the 201 file opening, so that they can go back and get all of the documents from those other files and put them in the 201 file, or at the very least, put cross reference sheets to the documents relating to the person in the 201 file so that anyone reviewing the 201 file would have the cross reference and know what other file to go to for document relating to the person but not actually in the 201 file. And a cross reference sheet is simply a piece of bond paper which is -- with a little typed notation, perhaps describing the document, say for photos of Oswald taken by American tourists and the date, see such and such a document in such and such another file with the date on it. That's all it would say, and then the person would know where to go and get it. So if there were cross referencing done, then it should be done that way.

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 12

But I might just mention Project Files too here
because in addition to 201 files, a lot
of persons or personality information goes
into project files and every CIA operation
for which money is spent requires a project
file

I think I went into this last night, but I
don't remember whether we were recording it.

In order to get money to spend for some
clandestine activities, some purpose, whether
it's for covert action or for counterintel-
ligence or for foreign intelligence collec-

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives (RG 226)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 13

tion, you have to write a statement of purpose and there is a regulation with numbered paragraphs which you follow when you're asking for a new project and part of one section of this has to do with the agents involved, another section has to do with the purpose another has to do with the security factors involved, another has to do with the finances involved, how much money, all of that. And the title of this document is called

if the project is to

be continued then

is submitted and it's suppose to go in, I think six months or three months before the termination of the original project. These documents go into what is known as

the logistics, finance and various other

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives (RG 233)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 14

equipment, whatever happens to be in terms of support required to keep the operation going.

here you would find contact reports between the case officers and the agent involved or agents involved. You would find operational progress reports, the reports required every three months, the quarterly reports on how the operation is doing.

production.

There you would copies of all the formal intelligence reports or information which is developed through this particular project.

So it's possible that somewhere they might have information on Oswald from before the 201 file was established. And there may be even separate filing systems that I don't know about from the Soviet Russia division at that time, or

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives (RG 233)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 15

from the counterintelligence staff where matters relating to Oswald would have been filed prior to the opening of the 201 file, and for that matter, even afterwards. For example, let's assume that these photographs were taken after December '60 and given to the CIA between December '60, when the 201 file was opened, and the assassination in November '63. It's possible that they might have gone into some other file, if these women, for example, were sent precisely to see Oswald and if the encounter wasn't just a chance encounter in Moscow between three American tourists and Oswald, but if they were sent actually and they were given instructions, then the photographs might be in their 201 files, or in the project files because they were part of an operation which had project files probably.

Brown: So your suggestion is to check them all, right?

Agee: I think you should ask them to do name checks on these three people right here and find out

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives II/CH (JG 213)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 16

if there are 201 files assigned to those people, and if they were a part of an operation to assess Oswald to see how he like the Soviet Union, to talk to him and see if he wouldn't want to come back to the United States. To get information directly from him, including the photographs, which are the only the most important thing, but to see what his attitudes toward the Soviet Union were at that particular time, to see whether he might be recruitable, but that may have been an operational development as oppose to a chance encounter there where they just took photographs in the street, so that's another threat that would have to be followed up.

Brown:

Agee:

No. None of those people do I know personally. seems to

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 17

ring a bell but I don't place it at all.

Brown: Why did the U.S. permit Oswald to return and why were they so solicitous of his needs? What is the S.O.P.?

Agee: Well, I don't have any explanation for why they were so solicitous. If he was still a U.S. citizen, then obviously they couldn't keep him out of the country. And I read in this other book here that at first INS were against the visa for Marina, I think, but if Oswald had not, in fact, renounced his citizenship properly, if he still was legally an American citizen, then there's just no question about whether he could return or not.

Brown: (Question here -- inaudible)

Agee: American citizens cannot be kept out of the country, I don't think. But why they were so solicitous and they gave him that money to come back can't be explained. Unless you see transcripts of the meetings in the Moscow

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives (RG 213)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 18

Embassy with Oswald when he decided he wanted to come back, then the request from the Embassy to loan him money, that is the request from the Embassy to the Department of State asking authorization to pay this amount of money to travel back, together with all the other things that go with this such as the meeting in Amsterdam, the overnight stay in Amsterdam, who saw him, how he got his ticket to take the boat to the states, all of those things to fill out the answer to this question to why they were solicitous of his needs. It's just possible that the agency had recruited him after he got to the Soviet Union and then now were deciding to take him out, or that he agreed to give them whatever information he could in return for assistance in getting back to the United States and for the visa for Marina. But there seems to be no record that they ever debriefed him or talked to him after he got back. I wonder what's in the Warren Report on the conversations in the American Embassy when he decided he wanted to come back? I've never seen . . .

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives (RG 233)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 19

Did the CIA lodge Lee Harvey Oswald in a safe house in Amsterdam during his return to the United States? I have no idea, I never heard of it.

Brown:

te

Agee:

None of those names ring a bell.

Now on the next question, number twelve, the International Rescue Committee. I believe that that is an organization which had close ties to the CIA, if it wasn't in fact totally CIA and it may be that this came out during those '67 revelations -- 1967 revelations -- remember there were all these different conduits and different CIA fund organizations named, but one person who could probably help you on the International Rescue Committee might be Victor, for example. But others who have followed up very closely on the front organizations revealed at time or in the past, one of them would be Lenny Seagle

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives NCH (RG 233)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 20

at the Pacific Study Center in, I think, it's East Palo Alto, California.

Brown: You said Victor -- who is Victor?

Agee: Victor Marchetti.

Brown: Victor Marchetti.

Agee: Yes, but I have a feeling that Lenny Seagle, that's Leonard Seagle, at the Pacific Study Center in East Palo Alto, California is the person who has probably done the most on following up the revelations of the various front organizations revealed over the past as having connection with the CIA. I think he would be able to help on the International Rescue Committee.

Brown: This Victor Marchetti - is he an agent or former agent -- just who is he?

Agee: Well, Victor was not an agent he was an officer of the CIA, but he had not worked in clandestine operations abroad, he had worked in analysis I

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 21

think in the intelligence side of the agency,
the deputy director of intelligence as oppose
to the deputy director in operations and planning,
where I work.

Brown: Where was he located?

Agee: He is now in Vienna, Virginia.

Brown: Who?

Agee: Vienna, Virginia. And he eventually became, I
think, the executive assistant to the deputy
director of the CIA. But he might have something
on the International Rescue Committee but there
are others like the one who might have
even more.

Thirteen -- why did the CIA request termination
of the Mexico City investigation?

This I never knew -- I never knew that they even
requested it. You must be talking about the CIA
headquarters requesting that the agency terminate

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 22

the Mexico City investigation, but here I don't know what they were even investigating to terminate so I can't really answer that question.

What does come to mind, though, is the failure of the photograph, which the CIA thought was Oswald, going to the Soviet Embassy to coincide with what Oswald really looked like -- that is the one who was killed by Ruby and it seems odd to me that when the photograph came out in the newspaper, of Oswald, that or whoever was putting this stuff together in Washington, based on the October 10 memorandum of the October 1st meeting and photograph, why they didn't realize that there were two different people? If you say the photograph is a clear photograph then if it's so obvious why wouldn't they then go back to the station and say look you gave us the wrong photograph. Send us all the photographs, or maybe they had them and it's maybe something you could even do today is go back the photographs, all the photographs that were taken September 30, October 1, October 2 and try to do your own reconciliation of those photographs with the log that

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 23

the observation post keeper would be maintaining of the people coming and going from the Embassy with the telephone transcript because it's quite obvious from the memorandum that they got the name from the telephone transcript, they got the photograph from the man entering the Embassy at the time that the appointment was set, probably by telephone, and they just assumed that that was Oswald. But then again, there is the second Oswald theory which plays in there too. That may be the investigation that they wanted stopped.

Leap: Could be - we're not sure what they wanted.

Agee: They might have wanted it stopped because somebody might realize who they said was Oswald in Mexico City at that particular time was not the real Oswald.

Brown: Do you know Werbell Posada, Hunt?

Agee: I suppose you mean E. Howard Hunt there don't you? No, I never knew him.

Agee:

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 24

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives NSCH (RG 233) 10

Agee: sounds like a cryptonym.
Fifteen -- Was Lee Harvey Oswald a CIA agent witting or unwitting -- did he have other intelligence connections?
Well, here, I only know what I heard from Wilcot.

Leap: We've pretty well covered that.

Agee: And the other intelligence connections are the military possibility. And there again, if he was being used in the Soviet Union by military intelligence, either having been sent there by them or having been recruited by them, I think that according to agreement between the military intelligence people and the CIA, military intelligence should have told the CIA they were doing it.

Leap: Does the CIA maintain a source register for all intelligence units abroad, regardless what agency they are affiliated with?

Agee: I'm not sure. I don't remember having heard of one. In fact, I'm not even sure that the military agencies would advise the CIA even if

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 26

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives USCH (RG 223)

Agee: Yes, although, remember that this system of indexing names is equivalent to that too, because every person who's engaged in politics or engaged in left-wing activities or engaged in intelligence, I mean everytime their name appears in a document it's indexed so that a person who ever does a name check on that subject of interest will be able to find the original documents and get a full picture of who the person is.

Agee: What is the foreign intelligence version of the assassination of JFK? Was there a conspiracy? What do you mean by foreign intelligence version?

Leap: Hypothetical situation. If you happen to be acquainted with a Cuban intelligence officer, at anytime during your conversations did he ever mention the assassination by whether or not there was a conspiracy?

Agee: Well, first place, I didn't have conversations with Cuban intelligence officers but I have heard versions, not from Cubans, but from Americans on

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 27

Agee: the possibility that Oswald was working with the Cubans. These are only the theories that have come up over the years.

Leap: I'm more interested in foreign versions. In each one of these intelligence units from foreign countries would have their own thoughts on that subject and I'm curious as to what it is.

Brown: But you wouldn't know anything about it?

Agee: No, we spoke earlier. I never heard anything -- I can't remember a single conversation with anybody in Cuba about the Kennedy assassination, or anyother country I've been in. But that doesn't mean, obviously, that they don't have their own feelings about how it all happened.

Agee: Did the CIA monitor Lee Harvey Oswald while he was New Orleans? That, I don't have any idea

Agee: If he was with the company, why was he in New Orleans? Well, if he was with the CIA at that time, it's very possible that he was building the legend of being pro-Castro through his conversations, through his work with the Fair Play for

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 29

don't remember the exact years that he was in Mexico City. He may well have been there during the period of the assassination, but I don't remember what his job was there, although I think he mentions this in his book. At least, he mentioned something about the Mexico part of his career and I just don't remember exactly what he said. But the only thing to remember about Phillips is that he has spread any number of lies about me because he has had this thing about the agency and defending the agency so you have to consider that he is a company through and through and that he even retired with the CIA in order to form this association of retired intelligence officers in order to defend the agency and his career. So there is a certain -- I am bias and that has to be taken into consideration.

Did Priscilla Johnson McMillan or Aileen Moseby, each of whom had press interviews with Lee Harvey Oswald in Moscow have connections with the CIA? Could have either of them have been briefing or debriefing Oswald? Are these the same people who took the photographs?

Leap:

No.

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 30

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives, RG 233

Agee: No, they're different.

I don't know whether they had any connection with the CIA. And the answer is, yes, of course, they could have been debriefing him. Do you recall when the press interviews took place?

Leap: Yes, it was during the period of time that Oswald was in Russia.

Agee: But, was it after the 201 file had been opened?

Leap: I don't recall exactly, but I think it was.

Agee: Were they separate interviews or the two met him together? Or did they meet him on various occasions?

Leap: I don't know the contents.

Agee: Because that would be very important to discover.

Leap: Why?

Agee: Well, because if he was in fact working with the agency or they were trying to assess his attitudes

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 31

towards the Soviet Union vis-a-vis the United States to get an idea of whether he would work for them, then they would need more than one meeting to get that, I think. Unless he was just absolutely clear -- it depends on how much they would want to say to him, but if they were working for the agency and they went there as journalists, without the protection of diplomatic cover, then they would have to be very, very careful about what they actually said to him because if he had defected and was under the protection as he says here without saying it, as a KGB, then these journalists would be in grave danger and there could be a very big flap if they went too far with him and he ran back and told the KGB and then they suddenly pounce on these two people and kept them in prison for several years or something. So there if they were working with the agency, they would have to be very circumspect in their questions to him and that would only allow just so much to be brought out at the first meeting, and they would need a second meeting, possibly a third meeting. And they would eventually bring in somebody from the agency with

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 32

some protection like diplomatic status to actually do the recruitment, but they wouldn't use people who were so vulnerable to try a recruitment. But if he had already been recruited then they might use journalists to do debriefings of him. That's once he's already recruited and they have a feeling of security with him as they did in the Penkovsky case with the British journalist who was eventually arrested and kept a prisoner for some time. I think he was traded for Abel, the KGB agent.

There again the number and frequency of the meetings the press interviews with these people would be quite key because if he is working for them and there was cutout system, they would want to see him at least once a month or once every two weeks.

Leap:

I doubt that they would have had that opportunity and couldn't come up with a legitimate excuse for the meeting. -- Unless they were doing an article-- a series of articles on him for some foreign publication.

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 33

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives, RG 233

Agee: And they would normally also give him a secret writing system possibly, which would be a carbon system. A piece of bond paper impregnated with chemicals which you would write on top of it - it's a carbon -- and then write cover letters out to some drop in possibly Japan or the west or some place for his normal reporting requirements and the messages or the messages into him in this communication system might have been what they call the one-way voice link, which was a

Leap: KGB would monitor all his letters.

Agee: They wouldn't use letters into him from outside to Oswald. His reporting from Moscow or from wherever he was outside could be an SW or Secret Writing. But, for the messages from the agency to him, it could be either through drops in the Moscow area or wherever he was living. Or it

You would have to have

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 34

code patterns to decipher it. Or it could have

But that was a way that they could communicate with people who didn't know Morse Code. It would be voice saying the letter or the number over the radio.

What do you know about the CIA operations against the Cubans and Soviet Embassies in Mexico City in 1963? Well, my knowledge of the operations against the Cubans and Soviet Embassies began in '66 September of '66, when I went back to Washington and was assigned to be in charge of the Washington headquarters support to the operations of the Soviet section of the CIA station in Mexico City. So, it's difficult for me to say how many of those operations in '60 and '63, I mean '66, actually existed in '63. But I think certainly, I'm sure the telephone tapping, existed in '63 because I was told about that by who had been the deputy chief of station in Mexico City in '60, '61 and '62 and who came

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 35

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives, NSC 233, 14

chief of station and he use to go on about the operations they had in Mexico City when he was there and that would include what was going on in '63. So they had the Embassy's telephone tapped, that's for sure. They had the observation posts, I'm quite sure, going on at that time too. They went back to the fifties.

Leap: Did CIA monitor American Embassy calls?

Agee: Not that I know of. I don't know of any that they did.

Leap: Do you know whether the FBI did?

Agee: I don't know what the FBI did in Mexico City at that time and I didn't know at that time.

Leap: Say in 1966.

Agee: In '66, there's a suggestion I can make because there was, in Mexico City, a group of Americans, former American citizens, or some of them may have still been American citizens, of people who

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 36

had left during the McCarthy period or even earlier, had gone to live in Mexico City and the FBI called them "the American Communist group - Mexico City" - ACGMC - and these were people like Frederick Vanderbilt Field, and, I think he was considered part of that group, I'm not absolutely sure, but there are files on these people and the group in headquarters.

Leap: These were U.S. citizens?

Agee: They were formerly U.S. citizens for sure. Some of them had become Mexican citizens and I don't know which of the group, and we're talking of a group of ten, fifteen, twenty people, maybe, but which expanded, had a peri-

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 37

phery too, they were former, perhaps some of them CP people in the states, who had simply decided to leave the country when all the post-war hysteria built up and they were left-wing Americans, in otherwords, but some of them had become Mexican citizens, and I don't know which ones became Mexican citizens. But I think chances are they were tapping the telephones of U.S. citizens, too.

In the case of each Embassy -- so you have first of all telephone taps; you have the observation posts; they had surveillance teams by the way assigned to both the Cuban and the Soviet Embassies in '66 and I'm quite sure they would have had them in '63. These are groups of men who

would be in radio communication with the observation post so if they were going to surveil a particular person on a particular day, the observation post, let's say one of the officers

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 39

station
Would the Mexico City files still contain records, transcripts, tapes, photos, etc.?
I think it would and that is because Wynn Scott, the chief of station in Mexico City was one of the greatest collectors of papers ever known in the agency, and the filing system in the Mexico City station was something to behold -- they had a whole, enormous room there full of files of every sort -- 201 files, subject files, project files -- and it was a vault area, which you reach by going all the way through the reception area, which is on the top floor across from where the Ambassador's office is in the Embassy - in the back - and you^{go} through the reception area then you go all around down the hallway through the whole station practically until you get to this vault door, and behind that vault door was this very big room, maybe twice the size of this room, which had files all over the place -- lines and lines of files -- and then there was a smaller room around the corner from it where they still had more files and they kept everything, I don't think Scott

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 40

ever threw away a piece of paper. He could find anything he wanted because the filing system was so good, and he had a lot people working in there, because Scott was so senior in the agency. He was allowed - he was able to take on a lot of so-called local hire people and these would be the dependents of CIA station officers or they would be, perhaps, dependents of Embassy personnel whom they could clear and train to work in that file room. He had, I think, four or five people working in that file room all the time. And he had a regular, qualified records officer, or woman, I can't remember whether it's a man or woman, working there. So, I have a feeling that where you take the

was the telephone tapping thing -- I think that they probably have those transcripts all the way back and I would think on the observation posts,

but there were two more besides that, surely they should have the logs still if the system has continued. Now Scott retired in '69 but

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 41

I wouldn't think that any chief of station would upset that system -- that was so effective. You know any of the people who followed him,

now He's come out recently in this snap-book and the controversy over Saigon and the evacuation. But I would think that the system has continued and that you can find the raw documents in the Mexico City station, transcripts, logs, surveillance reports from the teams, all of these things should still be in the project files.

Brown: How about photographs?

Agee: Photographs from the observation post should also be there. They had a technical shop in the Mexico City station also, which in effect

His name was -- I've forgotten now, but anyway he had a shop and he

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 42

would be in charge of making sure that the people at the observation post had the proper equipment and everything to do the development and printing of the film. I have a feeling that at the observation post they probably had the people trained to do the actual printing themselves so that they could pass back prints so the station person would not have to spend all their time doing the developing and printing, but they would send back, probably, the prints together with the logs and then somewhere along the way they would try to reconcile these with telephone tapping which was something separate from the observation post and the photograph.

Brown: I think there's one more page

Agee: I can't remember the cryptonyms of these operations but let me see my book here a second. On Mexico City I might have a cryptonyms here which . . . here we are . . . there are a number of names here of people who worked there at the time. I have here as the

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 43

surveillance -- as the cryptonym of the operation --

was the one in the back. But somehow you would be able to get to hopefully the project files and particularly the production section of the project files

the transcripts of for example and the photographs. And if not, there should be a way in which you could get them to give you selected documents which you would ask for. For example, the log of October 1, 1963 and the transcripts from : date to get the actual text of the conversation. He might have talked to them in Russian too, because he spoke Russian and apparently liked to speak Russian so when he called the Embassy, he might have

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 44

spoken Russian. But they had Russian translators who would eventually turn out these transcripts in English.

Brown: So anything they had there would probably be in Russian and English? Or just English?

Agee: It depends on whether the person doing the transcribing automatically put it down in English instead of ever doing it in Russian. In other places where I worked the transcripts of the Soviet lines, even though it was in Russian, would come in in English. And there would be a little notation of the language in which the conversation took even though it all came out in English, if it was Spanish, if it was English, if it was Russian or whatever.

Assuming that Lee Harvey Oswald had some type of intelligence connection, do you know you have any information or an educated guess as to offer on the following? Recruitment and training, covers, contact missions, operations, compensation arrangements, cryptonyms, records and files,

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 45

circumstantial evidence and intelligence relationships? Well, we've covered a lot of this already.

The key to this is the opening of the 201 file, whether there was another 201 file. And in the 201 file, incidentally, it would ^{be} important to look on the documents to see whether there were other files in which copies of these documents were filed. In other words you will sometimes find documents which have maybe three file numbers, two file numbers, or four file numbers. Only one of those will be the 201 number and so the copy you are seeing is the one that actually went into the 201 file. But those numbers, if you see that they . . . they will lead you to other files and to why this document on Oswald, which is in his 201 file, was also filed in another file.

Leap: Back to page one.

Agee: What are the names of those three people who supposedly took the (inaudible).

Brown: I've got a list of names here I want to ask you . .

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 46

You were in Mexico in 1967. . . ?

Agee: Yes, I was there July of '67 'til '71.

Brown: Do you know any of these people? David Phillips?

Agee: I know him and. . . .

Brown:

Agee: I told you yesterday, I think, that he was the deputy chief of station in Mexico City. I don't remember exactly when he got there, probably 1959 or 1960 and he was transferred from

Brown: Winston Scott.

Agee: Winn Scott I knew perfectly, right.

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives (RG 231)

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 47

Brown:

Agee:

replaced
deputy chief
of station in Mexico City, but there was another man
who wanted to be deputy chief of station whose
name I don't
but everybody
knew him
was, at the appointment as deputy
chief of station, in charge of covert action
operations in the Mexico City station, and
somehow was able to get Winn's confidence so that
Winn ----

So by the time I arrived in Mexico
City I think left and
already in as deputy chief of station.

Brown: Okay -- do you know

Agee:

was in the
Mexico City station when I . . . I think he was
there when I arrived . . . and I think he was
working in Cuban operations. Let me see what

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 48

In my book. I think I've got his

name. Yeh.

But, I'm

pretty sure that -- I may have slightly - - - -

I don't think I've made a mistake. No, I think
he was working in Cuban operations.

Brown:

Agee:

yes, I know him too. I knew

was one of the instructors during the training
course which I went through from January to July
of 1960. That's when I first met him. I knew
him. But in the early '60s he was transferred
down to Mexico City and he was working in opera-
tions against the Cubans in the period '63-'64
and if you look in my book under the name of

because he botched a defection in Mexico City
in January of '64.

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 49

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives, RG226 (JFK 233)

way back. And he defected there, or tried to defect and then he changes his mind. They were taking him to the airport.....I've described all this, but in charge of the case and instead of having the guy in the car, two guys on either side of him, people on either side of him, people on either side, all by himself and they were on their way to the airport, they got in a traffic jam and suddenly the guy hopped out of the car and disappeared. It's a long saga, the story of this defection,

this time I

was in charge of operations against

So we were trying to get information from him,

because he knew all about what they were doing in case, is ----- he would have known all of the operations against Cuba at the time of the assassination.

*pages 51-59
are about Anne*

AGEE INTERVIEW

Leap / Brown

Page 50

Reproduced from the holdings of the National Archives IIACA (PG 213)

Brown:

Agee: No.

Brown: How about Anne Goodpasture

Agee: Annie Goodpasture, yes. Anne Goodpasture was Winn Scott's right hand person for years there. And she was tantamount to his executive assistant and she would have known --- all these things we are talking about, the different operations, the cryptonyms, the files, everything; Anne was quite up on that. She really knows it all.

Brown:

Agee: I don't think I know. . .

Brown: How about this name is spelled the way it sounds,

Agee: No.